EXPEDITED PROCEDURE ART UNIT 3681

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Toru Takumori

Confirmation No.: 6720

Serial No.

10/701,867

Filed

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Examiner

: S. Rodriguez

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: 03-678

Customer No.

34704

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated December 14, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire March 14, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 4 of this paper.